

D R A F T

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2020-

AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL CONTRACTING AUTHORITY FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE CALIFORNIA WATER COMMISSION TO REIMBURSE THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD FOR STAFFING COSTS IN SUPPORT OF ACCELERATED PROCESSING OF WATER RIGHT APPLICATIONS OR PETITIONS FOR PROJECTS PROPOSED UNDER THE WATER STORAGE INVESTMENT PROGRAM

WHEREAS:

1. The Governor's April 29, 2019 Executive Order N-10-19 directed the development of the Water Resilience Portfolio (WRP) Report, which includes recommendations and future actions to implement the Executive Order, including Proposal 7.1 to accelerate state permitting of projects that protect and enhance fish and wildlife and water supply reliability that were selected under the Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP).
2. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is responsible for the administration of water rights in California. (Wat. Code, § 174.) The California Water Commission (CWC), which administers the WSIP, has approved conditional funding for multiple projects. Many of the WSIP projects approved for conditional funding by the CWC must submit new water right applications or change petitions before the projects can move forward.
3. The State Water Board expects to receive WSIP-related water right applications and petitions within the next two years; however, the State Water Board does not currently have the capacity to expedite WSIP applications and petitions without impacting existing permitting backlogs.
4. The State Water Board is authorized to add up to four (4) positions, funded through a reimbursable interagency agreement with the CWC, to provide technical services to support the processing of WSIP water right permitting actions. The reimbursable agreement will run through fiscal year 2024/2025.
5. Additional contracting authority is required in order to execute this reimbursable agreement between the State Water Board and the CWC for up to five (5) years and no more than \$4,500,000.00.

D R A F T

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board authorizes the Executive Director or designee to execute a reimbursement agreement between the State Water Board and the CWC for a term of up to five (5) years and an agreement amount not to exceed \$4,500,000.00 to support accelerated processing of water right requests for proposed projects under the WSIP.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on December 1, 2020.

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board